





MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN  
SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 27, 1847.

WILLIAM BACKLUSHER, Editor.

SIXTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

The Hon. Mr. Burwell, one of the Vice Presidents, presided at this meeting. Subject—Raising and Feeding Hired Cattle, continued. On account of the late snow and bad going, there were not a large number in attendance.

H. C. Merriam, Esq., of Tewksbury, having timely failed, at last meeting, to persuade farmers that Durham cows excel in dairy qualities, took another half hour to convince them of their erroneous notions. And still they were incredulous; no one appeared to have altered his opinion.

Mr. Brooks, the member from Princeton, did not think the Durham cattle had been introduced there, were entitled to all the credit that had been claimed for them. Their cattle are essentially native. Durhams come with some weight 10 or 12 hundred, and they ought to give more milk in proportion to their weight. But they do not—they do not excel in dairy qualities.

Mr. Brooks spoke of the treatment of cattle. He would treat all kindly. Cattle behave much better when their keepers are gentle with them. All will go to their places and wait to be tied up, if the keeper is not too violent. Heifers should always be accustomed to the gentle treatment; they should be handled and occasionally fed from the hand before milking. They will then be as gentle as the first milking in the world. Mr. B. gave rules for physic, as well as for the treatment of the sick.

A gentleman from Princeton, whose name was not given, said he was well acquainted with Mr. Brooks's stock, and with his superior mode of treatment. He thought there had been sufficient attention paid to the subject of breeding cattle. Princeton has good dairies; farmers there depend on selling butter, and to make this, the best dairy cows are selected. He said he was acquainted with the management of Mr. Brooks, the last speaker; Mr. B. purchases the finest young calves, and when they have grown up he sells them in the neighborhood, and in this way the stock of Princeton has been much improved.

For myself, said I, I have a farm and keep cows. I keep them in the barn in cold weather, nearly the whole time; they eat and drink there. I make it a rule to treat my cattle in the most gentle manner, never beat them, and I have no occasion to do so. I know a farmer who is continually thrashing his cattle; it takes him and two boys to whip them into the barn; each one gives a blow when he has a chance; he worries them out.

A. G. Sheldon, Esq., of Wilmington, said he would give all due credit to the Durham cattle; but he said that the Durham cows were not so good as the native cows are native. We cross with the Durham bulls, but the calves are never better than the mothers. We are told that Princeton is indebted to the Durham stock that was brought there 50 years ago, for her present improved race; but we can make as good improvement in half that time by attention to our own stock. We find some good cows of the Durham breed; they travel well, have good forms, and are large. When a purchaser makes a good bargain in one of them, there is much said about the breed—not so with our common cattle.

He was once on a Committee with Mr. Webster and Mr. Perry, at the last Brighton show. Some of the white Durhams were offered for premiums, and Mr. W. was inclined to allow a premium to them if the Committee could honestly do it. But they had better cattle shown to them, and would not.

He advocated the most gentle treatment—he could manage cattle better with the utmost kindness. He broke steers young, they make better oxen. He halter broke his calves, and controls them when very young.

The Editor of the Ploughman was much pleased to hear so many practical farmers advocate the system of kind treatment. He knew it to be the best mode. Cows will give more milk in proportion as they are treated gently. As to the Durham cattle, about which we have just heard so much, the only question is whether they excel in dairy stock, and he could not think that practical farmers will this evening reverse the unanimous verdict that was pronounced here one week ago. Not a title of evidence had been produced to-night to prove their good dairy qualities. They are large and showy; and have obtained many premiums at cattle shows; but this is no evidence of excellence for the dairy. Committees at cattle shows are obliged to judge principally from outward appearances. The largest and handsomest cattle stand the best chance at such places for the premiums.

Mr. S. W. Cole said, in answer to the assertion that the Durham stock is preferred to supply the London market with milk, that this does not prove the case. Milk, first, and then beef is expected of these cows. They are milked for a while, and as soon as they are milked they are turned off for beef. The cow "Bliss" was famous for the large quantity of milk she gave; but it took 19 quarts of it to make a pound of butter. He called Durham beef coarse grained.

Mr. Sheldon said he had dealt much in cattle. One mark of a good cow for milk is open ribs, or ribs that stand far apart. One of his acquaintances would not have a cow with round horns; but horns were his favorite. Mr. S. likes cows with long, lean faces; knees straight, toes right forward. He had owned one that he had driven 19 miles a day for five weeks in succession. He would give more for a year that he had made handsomely well, than he would for a year that had not.

Dr. Gardner, of Seekonk. I never heard that white ribs are a good sign for milk cows. He knew a man who preferred a horse with a wide forehead, because, having the sign of combativeness, he would not shy when he passed objects; he would be bolder than others. His own cows were from a cross of the Durham and the Galloway, and they give a good quantity of milk, and enough butter. He could not say how much, but the cows look as well and better than others around them. He gives his own cows better than the Ayrshires; they give a pound of milk at a time, and more in good feed.

Mr. Brooks wanted to know how much milk and how much butter in a day, or a week, was made by Dr. Gardner's cows? But Dr. G. did not know.

[A question here arose as to what constituted the Galloway breed; whether having no horns was the only criterion. It was agreed that it was not; yet all Galloways are without horns. These pole cattle have probably been here ever since the settlement of this country. En.]

Pice President Starbuck said he had known some of the so-called cattle to be very poor for milk. He could not agree with Dr. Gardner as to this breed for the dairy. He liked to see handsome cattle, with handsome horns. He has a cow which he has kept for a long time. She is worth as much as three of those that he has seen in the neighborhood. He approves of the practice of crossing our native cows with imported stock.

Subject for next evening—Profit of Farming.

Thomas Ben, Esq., has left Corinth, Me., and gone off without settling for his newspaper. Will others treat him?

WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO?

Congress must rise next week whether more funds are raised or not. The passage of the Wilcox proviso by the House causes great sensation. Whigs and Democrats from New England are unanimous in the question of extension, slavery any further, and the members from New York only one vote against the proviso—35 to 1 in the powerful State of New York—and that one is not elected for another term.

Slaveholders are now changing their tune. They want no more territory—what is the object in further prosecuting the war? We shall see as soon as the Senate has acted on the three million bill with the anti-slavery proviso. If the Senate rejects this bill on account of the proviso it will be evident to all that the extension of slavery was an important consideration in breaking with Mexico.

If the Senate rejects the bill the three millions will be on hand to continue the rulers of Mexico, and the war will continue.

The proslavery for the extension of slavery have more troubles than they expected. The free States are not quite so subservient as they expected. Northern men are not so easily brought over now since their constituents have waked up and the whole country sees the danger. Let the free States be true to themselves and they cannot be overpowered.

The friends of freedom have still another hold. Peace can never be made with Mexico without the consent of two thirds of the Senate. And two thirds will never agree to a treaty that is to extend slavery. Now will the third agree to an acquisition of free territory. If peace comes it must come without acquiring more territory.

A writer in the St. Louis Republican proves that Senator Benton was actually an officer at the time of the last war with Great Britain. He shows by the Congressional Record that he was there brought by Uncle Sam against the Col. to recover money that had been intrusted to him to recruit the army, and that judgment was rendered against him for several thousand dollars. The Col. was a Col. of record in the last war with Great Britain.

THE WEATHER. Our snow storm which commenced on Saturday has extended far and wide. We had very cold weather on Monday and Tuesday. We believe there is snow enough for sledding in all directions. Though but about twelve inches deep it is the heaviest of the season. It is much wanted for hauling wood over rough hills, and we advise farmers to use it before it changes its color.

Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Benton have had some close sparring in the Senate. Mr. Benton is for pushing the army further into Mexico. But Mr. Calhoun can see no advantage to be gained by it. He advocates taking a firm stand and holding to a certain line till Mexico is ready to make a treaty.

We are pleased to see that the Legislature of Massachusetts are unanimous on the subject of the extension of slavery in any of their territories of the United States. Mr. Capen of Boston asked to be excused from voting, but the House unanimously refused to excuse him.

Dr. Hittchcock of Middleborough and Mr. Kennersten, of Brimfield, both died of their wounds, received at the time of the crash of the cars on the Fall River Railroad. Both had their legs so broken that amputation was necessary.

BEARD STUFFS TO ENGLAND. During the month of January 6908 bushels of wool, 11825 of corn, 400 of dry sheep, and 56,534 bushels of wheat were shipped from the port of Philadelphia to England.

Unburnt steam packets, has offered to take out to Liverpool 500 barrels of breadstuffs, free of charge, in the Cambria, for the relief of the poor in Ireland and Scotland.

We invite the attention of farmers in Framingham, Hopkinton, and Holliston to the advertisement on the third page of Mr. S. N. Cutler, who has a supply of plaster at his mill in Framingham.

ANOTHER FIG. Mr. Alexander Eames of Framingham killed a pig last week, 22 months old, that weighed 641 pounds. She brought 12 pigs last April. She was a real beauty.

We are sorry to learn that our government cannot spare an idle vessel to carry to Ireland a barrel or two of food. When the war is over it may be too late to give any relief.

The ship John R. Skiddy arrived at New York on Monday in the short passage of 24 days from Liverpool. She brings forty thousand pounds sterling in specie.

At Tampico on the 8th, it was believed that the wrecked Louisiana volunteers had been captured by the Mexicans.

On Wednesday morning a fire broke out in New York and caused damage to the amount of \$100,000.

It is said there is no truth in the report of a fight between C. M. Clay and Tom Marshall.

Santa Anna is not dead, as many of the papers would have us believe.

Col. Harney has been tried by a court martial and acquitted.

We have dates from Brazos Santiago to the 6th. Lat. Ritchie from the 10th Dragoons, having departed from Gen. Scott to Gen. Taylor, with his party, had all been murdered by the Mexicans, between Monterey and Victoria, and the dispatches, giving the proposed plan of operations of the army were taken by the enemy.

Major Borland with fifty men, and Cassius M. May with thirty men, had been captured by Gen. Minon, with 500 cavalry, fifty miles beyond Saltillo.

Gen. Scott was about embarking for Tampico.

SUPPLIES FOR EUROPE. The new packet ship Constitution and the steamer Sarah Sands sailed from New York for Liverpool on Wednesday. The former took 10,000 bushels of wheat, 25,000 of corn, 2700 barrels of corn meal, and 4000 barrels of flour. The latter, 1500 barrels of corn, 400 barrels of corn meal, 4000 bushels of corn, 400 bushels of wheat, and quantities of bacon, onions, potatoes, rice, &c.

CORN OR COTTON. A large cotton planter near Vicksburg asserts that he would prefer raising corn at 25 cents per bushel to cotton at 15 cents per pound, and has offered to plant his entire plantation to corn this year, if he can contract for the same at 35 cents per bushel. The planter is on the banks of the river. A large corn operator offered to contract at 30 cents per bushel, but the parties did not close.

THE WEATHER. At Springfield, on Wednesday morning, the thermometer fell to 20 below zero, and it was the coldest morning of the season. The difference in the temperature was 28 degrees in twenty-four hours. The snow was more than a foot deep upon a level.

MR. CALHOUN'S PROPOSITIONS.

The substance of the resolutions submitted by Mr. Calhoun in the Senate, on Friday, are as follows:—

1. That the territories of the United States are joint and common property of all the States.

2. That Congress, as the agent of all the States, has the right to make any law by which territory shall be deprived of full and equal right to any territory acquired or to be acquired.

3. That any law which would deprive the citizens of any State from emigrating with their property into any territory of the United States, would be in derogation of this perfect equality, and in violation of the constitution, and tend to subvert the Union.

4. That the imposition of any condition upon States, in order to its admission into the Union, other than that its constitution shall be republican, would be a direct violation of the constitution, and conflict with the principles on which our system rests.

Mr. Calhoun preceded his propositions with a speech, which is reported in full in an extra Union. The following characteristic conversation ensued after the resolutions had been read, and Mr. Calhoun had expressed his views that they might be considered of Saturday.

Mr. Benton rose and said: Mr. President, we have some business to transact. I do not intend to avoid business for a string of abstractions.

Mr. Calhoun. The Senator says he cannot take up abstractions. The constitution is an abstraction. The great rule of life is an abstraction. The Declaration of Independence is an abstraction. And when I hear a man declare that he is against abstract truth in a case of this kind, I am prepared to know what his course will be.

Mr. Benton. I will pursue my own course when the time comes. I know what my business is, and what is not. I am for going on with the business of the session; and I say, I shall not vote for any law that is an abstraction to the exclusion of business. He says he calculated on my course. He is mistaken. He knows very well, from my whole course in public life, that I never would have public business to take up abstractions.

Mr. Calhoun. The Senator does not comprehend me. Mr. Benton. I am for the right place. I am on the side of my country and the Union.

WAR NEWS. Tampico dates of the 6th have been received at New Orleans, with intelligence of the loss of the ship Odiaka, about 30 miles south of Tampico, having on board the second regiment of Maine militia volunteers, under Col. De Russy. The troops and crew were safely on shore, and have since arrived at Tampico, except the Captain of the ship. It is not known that he left the ship at all. It is said, but not believed, that the ship was taken by the Mexicans.

On hearing of the loss of the Odiaka, the steamer Undine, with the 8th company of the 3d artillery on board, was dispatched from Tampico to render assistance. The Undine was returned, but it was rumored that this company were cut off by a body of eight hundred of the enemy's cavalry, and another rumor is, that the Mexicans attacked the volunteers after landing, and that this led to a dispersal of our forces, and a forced march to Tampico. These rumors are doubted, but they came through three different channels.

Ships were off Tampico with sixty troops on board.

A report has been received at Tampico by a commercial house, of a false encounter in the Southwest between the Mexicans and a nation of Indians, called the Comanches. Many are believed to have been killed on both sides, but the Americans were victorious and took possession of the city of Chihuahua.

Rumors had reached Tampico, understood to have come from the squadron, that Commissioners had been sent from Mexico to arrange the difficulties between the two governments.

are received at New Orleans also mention a battle near Chihuahua, in which the Americans were victorious, and the Mexicans were killed.

The Committee on Commerce reported the River and Harbor bill, as it came from the House, without amendment.

Mr. Dix presented a petition, asking that a public ship might be furnished to carry grain to Ireland.

The House adopted the resolution for the purchase of copies of Disturnell's map of Mexico.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the bill making additional post roads in the territory of Mexico, which was reported and passed; and the bill extending the franking privilege of postmasters.

The House refused to suspend the rules to permit Mr. C. J. Ingersoll to introduce a resolution on the subject of the annexation of Texas.

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CONGRESSIONAL.

SATURDAY, FEB. 20.

IN SENATE. The Ten Regiment bill was taken up, and the amendments authorizing the appointment of two additional Paymaster Generals, two Captains, six First Lieutenants of Ordnance, was adopted. It is provided that these officers are to serve only to the end of the war. The consideration of the bill was then postponed.

The Three Million bill was then taken up. Mr. Sevier, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, gave notice that he should ask the Senate to take the vote on the bill on Wednesday.

IN THE HOUSE. Mr. Drumgould presented a series of resolutions from the Virginia Legislature, in favor of the prosecution of the war, and tendered thanks to President Polk.

The bill providing for the sale of mineral lands belonging to the United States was passed.

The bill to make Bangor a place of entry was passed.

The River and Harbor bill was passed.

MONDAY, FEB. 22.

IN SENATE. To-day, a number of petitions were presented and referred. The Vice-President announced a communication from Mr. Evans, Senator from Maine, resigning his office as one of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institute, and his resignation was accepted, and Mr. Pierce of Maryland was appointed in his place.

IN THE HOUSE. Mr. McKay, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill appropriating two millions additional for the use of the army for two years. Mr. Winthrop proposed the bill, and offered an amendment against making any appropriation for the purposes of conquest.

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LEGISLATIVE.

FRIDAY, FEB. 19.

IN SENATE. Petitions presented and referred. By Mr. Perkins, of Delaware, and others, for an act of incorporation as a Savings Bank; by Mr. Taguire, of St. Alden and others, of Brookfield, for an alteration of the laws relating to a class of intoxicating drinks.

IN THE HOUSE. By Mr. Bell of Boston, Committee on Education, a bill to withdraw from the petition of the Selection of North Chelsea, for a change in the charter of that town. Placed in the order of the day.

The motion to reconsider the vote whereby the bill concerning the Chelsea Branch Railroad Company was ordered to a third reading, was carried, the bill amended, and passed to be engrossed under a suspension of the rules.

IN THE HOUSE. The Committee on the Judiciary reported that it was inexpedient to legislate concerning the alteration in the Constitution of the State of New York.

IN SENATE. A petition was presented of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad corporation for loan of State scrip on mortgage of their property, to an amount not over \$600,000.

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DEATH OF AN EMIGRANT.

An emigrant who had just arrived from Europe, and who was a deck passenger on the steamer Massachusetts, died on the passage to Stonington, supposed from the effects of a ship fever contracted on the passage from Europe. He was quite ill when the boat left New York. It being understood that his wife and several children who were on board the boat, were left entirely destitute, the Rev. John O. Choules, who was on board, interested himself in their behalf, and obtained twenty-five dollars among the passengers for their benefit. [Journal.]

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS. Company G, of the first regiment of New Orleans on the 15th inst. from Pensacola. They had a narrow escape from death on the schooner Elizabeth, in which they took passage, and which was wrecked on her way. The soldiers saving little but what they stood in. Some of their clothing drifted ashore. They were under the command of Capt. J. H. Winder, first Lieutenant H. D. Grafton, second Lieutenant T. Seymour. There were not more than thirty men in the company, old campaigners, but at Tampa they are to be joined by forty or fifty recruits.

FIRE IN SOUTHBIDGE. About 1 o'clock Sunday morning, a fire broke out in the Weaving Establishment connected with the Dresser Mills, in Southbridge. The building and machinery were entirely destroyed. There was insurance at several offices to the amount of \$5,200—\$2,500 of which was at the Manufacturers' office, in Worcester.

On Friday afternoon, some of the miners were employed in Spencer's mine, at Pottsville, Pa., were proving the air with their lamps, the foul air ignited, when a most terrific explosion took place, killing several men, and wounding many others. The explosion was so great, that the ground was shaken, and the air was so filled with smoke, that it was not expected will survive.

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE. A fire broke out in Carlisle, Pa., on Saturday night last, in the Marlborough Hotel, opposite the jail. In the excitement, the prisoners in the jail were entirely forgotten, and unfortunate to relate, three of these miserable beings were consumed amidst the flames of the burning hotel.

ROBERT RANTOUL, Jr., who gave the sword to Mr. Cushing, is President of the Anti-Capital Punishment Society. The Chronicle writes that he has been visiting in the city, and is endeavoring to explain his preference for killing innocent men with steel over killing guilty men with hemp.

New-York, Tuesday, 10-12 P. M. Four thousand barrels of flour have changed hands to-day, at \$7, and six thousand bushels of corn at 98 cents to \$1.

APPOINTMENT. The New York Sun of Monday morning states that James Watson Webb, of that city, has been appointed to command of the Volunteer Regiment, which sailed from New York to Tampa a few weeks ago.

One New Orleans mail has arrived. The Picayune has a rumor that the United States troops at Tampa have been attacked by yellow fever.

MARRIAGES. In this city, by Rev. Mr. Streeter, Mr. William Harrington, to Miss Ann J. Jewell.

By Rev. Mr. West, Mr. William Williams to Miss Mary Ann.

By Rev. Mr. W. L. Sheffield, Counselor at Law, of Fall River, to Miss W. daughter of Samuel S. Crocker.

By Rev. Mr. Butler, Captain George of Westchester, to Miss Lydia M. Bowers of Boston.

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## THE POETS CORNER.

### THE ATLANTIC'S BELL.

BY MRS. L. M. HIGGINS.

(It is a touching and remarkable fact that the bell of the Atlantic, suspended by the cables of the wreck and the contrived rock, still continues to toll, except by heavy surges, the requiem of the dead.)

Tell, tell, tell,  
Thou bell by hollow swaying,  
And night and day thy warning words  
Repeat with mournful tongue!

Tell for the gently dead,  
Week's rest on rocky shore,  
Sea-breeze in her quiet hall,  
She rides the surge no more!

Tell for the Master told,  
The highland's and the brave,  
Who sail'd her like a thing of life,  
And the cruel wave!

Tell for the hardy crew,  
Some of the storm and blast,  
Who long the tyrant Ocean daunt,  
But 'tis vainly that they last!

Tell for the Man of God,  
Whose hallow'd voice of prayer  
Rose calm above the stifled groan  
Of that immense despair!

How precious were those tones  
O'er that vast verge of life,  
And the fierce and freezing storm,  
And the mountain-billow's strife!

Tell for the lone lost,  
To the summer's beauteous train,  
Bright glow a picture on his breast,  
Beneath the sunset's main—  
One from her ancient gait,  
Long e'er the misty sea;  
He cometh not, pale maiden,  
His heart is cold to thee!

Tell for the silent sea,  
Who to his home drew near,  
To bless a glad expecting group,  
And his children's dear!

They keep the blazing hearth,  
The festal board is spread,  
But a fearful groan is at the gate,  
Room for the silent dead!

Tell for the lone and fair,  
The whelm'd beneath the tide,  
The broken bars around whose strings  
The dead sea-monsters glide!

Moan and wailing cease,  
Rest from the household throng,  
There's bitter weeping in the nest  
Where breath'd their soul of song.

Tell for the hearts that beat,  
Northward's flowing tread,  
Tell for the hushes open left  
The last of all his race!

Yes, with thy heaviest bell,  
From surge to rocky shore,  
Tell for the living, not the dead,  
Whose mortal words are o'er!

Tell, tell, tell,  
O'er breeze and billow free,  
And with thy startling lure instruct  
Each rover of the sea;

Tell how, o'er proud seas,  
With swift decision sweep,  
And bid him build his nest on high,  
Love Teacher of the deep!

(National Intelligencer.)

## LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

### The New Carpet.

BY ELLEN ARBUTHNOT.

"How lovely—is it not beautiful? I never saw anything so elegant—and to think how cheap!"

Such were the exclamations of Harry Howard's young wife. She was standing with her husband in a fashionable carpet store, the clerk of which had just unfolded a piece of Brussels carpeting, saying:

"Now, madame, if you wish a really beautiful article, here it is; and at a price too I am almost ashamed to name; but we bought the goods low and are anxious to sell them cheap. You see the superior brilliancy of the colors. Indeed, ingrain carpetings are going out of fashion; for manufacturers now reserve their best patterns for Brussels. Besides, the latter outlasts the former, so that, though the first cost is higher, in the end the one is no dearer than the other."

Mrs. Howard had intended to purchase an ingrain carpet; her old one had been of that kind and she had always thought it quite good enough. Her husband was not rich, but his business was excellent, he had saved something annually, and was in a fair way to lay up a competence for his old age. Harry Howard's exactness and reticence were proverbial; he had the reputation of being economical also, so that he was very generally regarded as a rising young man.

His wife was a partner, in all respects, suitable for him. She was moderate in her wishes, careful in her household, an affectionate wife, and a devoted mother. Harry loved her devotedly, for he thought her as good as his wife. But she had her little foibles, as well as other folks; and her peculiar weakness was to be proud of her house and furniture.

As the clerk unfolded the piece of beautiful Brussels carpet, she said in a sudden and strong voice to possess it, and his eloquence speedily obviated the objection which prudence had first started in her mind. When he had finished she looked anxiously at her husband.

"It is very pretty," said he.

"And so cheap!" replied his wife.

"I am telling you the truth," said the clerk with emphasis, "when I declare on my honor that we could not sell these goods so well at anything like this price."

"The ingrain looks very dull beside it," said the wife; "but still, perhaps, that will do us quite as well as this." And she turned away with a sigh after this effort to resist the temptation.

"Well do as you like, my dear," replied her husband; "I am sure I can trust your good sense. The carpet will cost more than I had thought of giving; but then, as you say, it will outwear an ingrain one."

"Yes, sir," said the clerk. "I know a friend who bought an article like this five years ago; a different pattern you know, but the same quality of goods—and it looks as fresh to-day as when it was put down. You could not find an ingrain carpet to do that."

"No indeed," said the wife, looking inquiringly at her husband.

"Well, let us try it," was his reply, for he saw his wife's heart was set on the purchase—and it was but fifty dollars more, at any rate, and fifty dollars can't break me."

Mrs. Howard had not quite satisfied herself that she had done right, for as she walked home she said:

"I know some will call it useless extravagance, but in the long run it is cheaper, you know as the clerk said. And besides I can soon save it out of other things. I will manage without a new silk dress this winter, and my old bonnet will do very well with a little fresh trimming—Oh!—we shall not feel it by spring."

The carpet was put down, and then Mrs. Howard declared that it was prettier than ever. It was indeed the proudest day of her life. Not one of her acquaintances possessed a Brussels carpet, and she reflected with considerable complacency on her superiority. It was her delight to exhibit it to her female friends, who, actuated by curiosity or envy, lost no time in calling to see her new treasure; and she especially enjoyed the triumph it afforded her over one or two, who, hitherto had surpassed her in their style of living.

The carpet had been down about a month, when one evening Mrs. Howard said to her husband:

"Your mother was here to-day, my dear, and is in raptures at our new carpet. She says she never saw anything like it to her knowledge. But she thinks our chairs entirely too common for it; and she looks at them with a Brussels carpet and can't look at them. Don't you think so, my dear?"

"I am more than half of your opinion," said her husband, "and thought so from the first—I wonder what a set of mahogany chairs would cost?"

"I don't know, indeed. A great deal of money, I have no doubt. Mrs. Sutton paid seven dollars a piece for hers. We must do without mahogany chairs until we get rich."

Though Mrs. Howard said this it was with a sigh. The conversation dropped, nor was the subject alluded to for several days. But when Mrs. Howard went into the parlor, she thought her great improvement in mahogany chairs would make, and thought at first she repelled the idea of their purchase as too extravagant, she finally began to regard it with less aversion. One day, however, her husband came home:

"My dear," he said, "I saw a set of mahogany chairs to-day at auction, and they sold very cheap, being bid for less than four dollars a piece. I almost bought them, but I thought, for if I had bid them, we could have got them at a bargain."

"What a pity!" said his wife, leaving a profound sigh.

From that day the desire of possessing a set of mahogany chairs became an engrossed one with Mrs. Howard. Four dollars a piece was so very cheap! If she could only obtain such a bargain! She attended all the sales and visited all the auctioneers, and as she went, she felt that she was not far from her goal.

On the day of the sale she was there punctually; but another person seemed equally anxious to have the chairs; and so Mrs. Howard was forced to pay five dollars a piece for them.

"It is a little more than we thought of paying," she said. "But they are very handsome, and such a bargain! Several were quite disappointed when they came and found the chairs sold. I am sure I could have sold the purchase at a profit. But I don't regret the cost a bit, since they look so beautiful."

Harry, as the reader may have guessed, was of an easy, good natured disposition, and willingly yielded to his wife's opinions. If he felt any misgivings at this departure from economy, they soon vanished like his wife.

The chairs were scarcely arranged in the parlors, before some visitors suggested how much new sofas would improve the rooms, and so finally new sofas were bought. After this came carpets and pictures, for each new acquisition made Mrs. Howard more and more discontented with her old ones. She was now a real miser.

The love of display now became a ruling passion with her. Hitherto she had been very well contented with her old associates, who were generally people of her rank and position, but now with her increased elegance of her house she aspired after more fashionable acquaintances.

Visiting their dwellings, she saw furniture more elegant than hers, and to rival them was continually adding some new article to her collection, so that at length her parlors were so plainly furnished, blazed with candle-lights, sofas, tables and gilded vases in the most fashionable styles.

Two years after the purchase of the new carpet, you would have known her house as a mansion. Her own habits and those of her wife's had changed also. Formerly his evenings had been spent at, or in a society visit to his neighbors, where there was neither ceremony nor expense; but now he and his wife were never away from their own gay party, and when they remained at home it was to entertain a circle of friends with considerable display. The Howard had got quite used to this life, and they had brought up in it. They had become used to a round of visiting entertainments and balls. Every evening a little party was projected at their house, and for another, or else seats were taken at the theatre for the whole company. Display and extravagance had altogether supplanted the love of order and economy which had once been the characteristic of both Harry and his wife.

It was not without many a sighing that the young couple continued this new career they had begun; but the truth is, habits of expense are more easily acquired than got rid of, and their new friends were so charming, or so fashionable, that they could not help but follow them.

Both Harry and his wife soon found their fears daily less troublesome, and gave themselves up to the pleasures and rest to the pleasures of their new mode of life.

Among the warmest friends Harry possessed, was a Mr. Harry, an old gentleman who had grown rich in a small business by economy. On Harry's new career, Mr. Harry had been active in assisting him not only with his experience but with his purse. Latterly, however, the intimacy between the old gentleman and his nephew had cooled, and from the fault of the former, however, but Mr. Harry had vented some expostulations with Harry on his new mode of life, which he had not taken in good part.

Two years ago, however, Harry came into Mr. Harry's store with an anxious brow and in considerable embarrassment asked for the loan of a thousand dollars.

"I have nothing to lend," said the old man with a shake of the head. "These are the hard times, and every man must look out for himself."

Harry colored and turned on his heel. When he had gone some distance, his wife who happened to be in the store at the time said:

"My dear, I thought you had plenty of money. I am sure I saw you send two thousand dollars to the bank since I came in."

"I have no money, I only refused to lend. I say I had no money, I only refused to lend. And Harry understood me too. It must have galled a proud nature like his to ask me for a loan, and it galled him still more to have a refusal. But I thought only his wife, Mr. Harry had been active in assisting him not only with his experience but with his purse. Latterly, however, the intimacy between the old gentleman and his nephew had cooled, and from the fault of the former, however, but Mr. Harry had vented some expostulations with Harry on his new mode of life, which he had not taken in good part.

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Harry's business was an excellent one, and if he had lived on half his income—as he might have done very comfortably—he would have been worth by thousands of dollars every year. It takes very little to live, and it takes very little to show that, in that case, he would have been a wealthier man than I am at my age."

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In less than a week the red flag of the auctioneer waved from the windows of Harry's elegant house; and before a month he had retired with his family into an obscure street, where he found a livelihood by hiring as a clerk.

But the severest pang was felt by Mrs. Howard, who, about a month after the failure, met one of her fashionable friends in the street, who returned her greeting with supercilious hauteur, saying to a companion in a tone loud enough to be overheard:

"I should have thought that Mrs. Howard would not have had the impudence to speak to me, after Mr. Howard had defrauded my husband of so much money. We used to tolerate the Howards because they were customers of Mr. Green, and gave excellent parties. But it seems they were giving parties all the while, on other people's money. If there is anything I detest it is this aping style of living above one's means. Mr. Green says there ought to be a law to put men like Mr. Howard into the penitentiary!" (Peterson's Magazine.)

Not Taking the Doctor's Advice.

KILLING A HUSBAND WITH KINDNESS.

A FOLK DEED.

Among the most disagreeable things attending the practice of the most ardent of all professions—Medicine—are the prejudices the physicians must constantly contend with in their minds of the patient, or in that of his friends. It is easier to cure the bodily complaints of a hundred persons than to eradicate the prejudices from one. Abundant, ridiculous, and hurtful notions, which have, as it were, grown up with them, will adhere to the mind, in spite of all efforts to root them out.

Visiting a patient a short time ago, says Dr. Lanchester, a physician, late from Cincinnati, but now practicing in this city, created a very disagreeable smell, like that of putrid meat, apparently issuing from beneath the clothes at the foot of the bed. I inquired what it was.

"Why," said the good wife, who was attending on her sick husband, "it's nothing but a dog-bird fowl he has got on the bottom of his bed."

"A dog-bird fowl!" exclaimed I, with amazement.

"Yes, Doctor," said she; "I had the fattest fowl in the barn yard cut open alive, and one half put on one foot, and the same remedy while it was all alive and kicking. It's a charming thing for a fever, Doctor."

"A live fowl cut open and put on a man's feet to cure a fever! Who put this foolish notion into your head?"

"Foolish notion or not, Doctor, I am sure Mr. Tozer is a great deal better of his complaint than he was, poor man; he doesn't sweat so, and he breathes a great deal shorter and quicker than he did before."

"So you always tell me, Doctor, when I'm doing all I can for the benefit of the sick in my American English hospital; but I have heard of a cure of this kind, and I have seen it done. I have seen the cold of my first husband—the dear good Mr. Pheasant. Heaven rest his soul! which I inquired of all I could, turned to an information of the lungs, and he is now in his grave poor man."

"But what could put into your head this shocking remedy of the split fowl?"

"Why, it's been in my head ever so long, a purifier, as I've heard my mother say. Father was likewise cured by the same remedy of a dreadful rebellious fever, but just as he was getting on his feet again, he had a prolapse, which carried him off. Besides, my cousin Jonathan Jenkins was cured of the same complaint in the chest in the same way. Then Mrs. Thistlethwaite, who, you know, is very skillful in roots and herbs, and so forth, says there is nothing in the world so good for a fever as the split fowl."

"A split fowl!" I was going to say; and indeed, if all folks were so, who meddle with what they know nothing about, the world would be better off."

"Did you give him the medicine I left him?"

"No, Doctor, Mrs. Thistlethwaite came here just after you went away, and I couldn't do so. I was not without many a sighing that the young couple continued this new career they had begun; but the truth is, habits of expense are more easily acquired than got rid of, and their new friends were so charming, or so fashionable, that they could not help but follow them."

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